

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's amendment filed on September 30, 2009 has been considered and entered in full.
2. Applicant's amendments to the claims have been considered and are persuasive; therefore all the rejections on the respective claims have been withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

Reasons of Allowance:

3. Claims 1-11, 13-28 and 30-33 (renumbered as 1-31) are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons of allowance:

The reasons of allowance for claims 1 and 17 should be evident from the applicant's arguments as filed in the amendment filed on 09/30/2009 and from the previous office action mailed on 07/09/2009, and therefore the reasons of allowance are not repeated herein. All other claims depending on claims 1 and 17 are allowable at least by dependency on claims 1 and 17.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Manav Seth whose telephone number is (571) 272-7456. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vikkram Bali, can be reached on (571) 272-7415. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Manav Seth/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2624
January 8, 2010